١٤__ Application Number: 09/486,558 RECUEST FOR Filing Date: April 13, 2000 CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) Inventors: Mireille MAUBRU et al. TRANSMITTAL Group Art Unit: 1751 Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 Examiner: M. Einsmann provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) Attorney Docket Number: 05725.0555 Attorney Customer Number: 22,852 This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a Note: continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AlPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114: Previously submitted i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply after final under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on [Date] ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on [Date] iii. Other Enclosed: \boxtimes b. i. \boxtimes Amendment/Reply 05/23/2003 MDANTE1 00000052 09486558 ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) 750.00 OP 01 FC:1801 iii. Information Disclosure Statement Other Miscellaneous ☐ Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) forma period of [number] months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required: ☐ Other _ m 3. Fees \$750.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) i. ii. Petition for extension of time for ([number] Months) \$[Fee] Other: \$810 additional claim fee (31 additional claims at \$18/claim = \$558, and 3 additional independent iii. claims at \$84/claim = \$252.) \boxtimes Check in the amount of \$1,560.00 is enclosed. b. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916. Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required Name: Mark J. Feldstein Reg. No.: 46,693 Signature: Date: May 22, 2003 **Certificate of Mailing or Transmission** I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, BOX RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: Signature:

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PATENT Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 05725.0555

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Mireille MAUBRU et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1751	JUN 0 3 2003
Application No.: 09/486,558)	Examiner: M. Einsmann	TC 1700
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Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Board's Decision dated March 27, 2003, and in combination with the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Without prejudice or disclaimer, please (i) cancel claim 25, (ii) replace claims 20, 24, 26, 27, 42, and 47 with amended claims 20, 24, 26, 27, 42, and 47, and (iii) add new claims 48-79, as follows:

FINNEGAN HENDERSON FARABOW GARRETT & DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202.408.4000 Fax 202.408.4400 www.finnegan.com

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